
Frequently Asked Questions by New State Coordinators

Where do I begin?

Form a State TRANSCAER® Team (Team). Team's are usually comprised of chemical and transportation industry personnel, and local emergency management associations such as Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and State Emergency Response Commission.

The purpose of this Team is to coordinate with the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), review existing emergency response plans, identify community needs, and provide assistance.

How do I form a State Team?

Your Regional Coordinator and/or existing emergency response contacts may be good resources. They may be able to provide names of initial contacts.

Why do I need a State Team?

Each State Team has a different approach to implementing TRANSCAER. However, most states do have a State Team or Committee. A Team structure helps bring a variety of skill sets and resources to the TRANSCAER table.

How have other states approached implementing TRANSCAER?

Activities of State Teams and/or Committees vary based on the needs of the community.

Examples activities include:

- Presentations,
- Conference sponsorships,
- Tabletops,
- Full scale training events, and
- Regional training events.

See the TRANSCAER website at www.transcaer.com for more details.

How are State Teams funded?

State Teams are self-funded by member donations, fees, and/or direct donations for specific training events. In a few select cases, grants are provided by the NTTG for specific events meeting certain pre-established criteria.

How do you measure progress of State Teams?

Progress of State Teams can be calculated in a number of ways including:

- Productive meetings/conference calls measured by attendance, minutes, and actions,
- Growth,
- Available training resources,
- Recorded TRANSCAER[®] contacts and presentations, and
- Recorded training events including large training events such as Whistle Stops.

How can a State Team assist its community to conduct a flow study?

The TRANSCAER Guidance Manual (Manual) posted in the *Resources* section of the TRANSCAER website provides information on how to gather information on primary hazmat transportation routes, the types and volumes of hazmat being transported, past accident history, and resources for emergency planning and implementation.

Once the flow study is complete, what can we do with this information to help the community?

Once the flow study is complete, reevaluate the community's emergency plan with their assistance. You may find that the plan does not consider a hazmat transportation incident. If no plan exists, contact your state emergency response center for advice and information on building a plan. Section 4.0 of the Manual addresses this. The Manual is posted in the *Resources* section of the TRANSCAER website.

How do I plan for an event to test the emergency response plan?

There are many ways to approach planning an event. Section 7.0 of the Manual discusses methods. Additionally, presentations on how to plan large and small drills are posted in the *Resources* section of the TRANSCAER website.

How do I secure modal emergency response training for local emergency responders?

One way to secure modal emergency response training is to contact carriers that transport hazmat through your community. If you are unfamiliar with those carriers, your Regional Coordinator may be able to provide names of initial contacts.

Please Note: Many carriers provide training equipment and personnel. However, reservations for equipment must be made months in advance as these items are in high demand.

How does a large scale event such as a Whistle Stop or Training Tour begin?

The State Team identifies a need for this type of event and selects training routes based on information gathered. A Planning Committee is developed to organize the event, request resources, and provide training.

How can the National TRANSCAER® Task Group (NTTG) assist my State Team?

The NTTG assist State Teams by providing:

- Support, guidance, and assistance,
- Gathering equipment for an Event/Training Tour,
- Maintaining the TRANSCAER website,
- Distributing materials, and
- Recognizing Team efforts via awards and certificates.

For more information on the NTTG, visit the *About Us* section of the TRANSCAER website.

What type of recognition is available from the NTTG for State Teams?

TRANSCAER awards recognize successful and active State Teams. Awards include:

- [TRANSCAER® Regional Achievement Award](#)
- [TRANSCAER® Individual Recognition](#)
- [TRANSCAER® Certificate of Appreciation](#)

For more information on the Awards system, please visit the *Awards* section of the TRANSCAER website.